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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application:	10/715,156	Unit No.:	3634
Title:	Golf Club Holding Rack	Examiner:	Purol, Sarah L.
Inventor:	Rondal Brent Wright		
Filing Date:	11/14/03	Our File No.:	02-080

Amended Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A golf club holding rack, comprising:

an outer housing assembly, said outer housing assembly having an outer wall and a bottom surface, wherein entire said outer housing assembly is mounted in the ground with said open top end exposed and flush with the ground;

a holding rack, having an upper stand, a lower stand and a connector tube connecting said upper stand to said lower stand;

a spring-biased mechanism affixed to said holding rack and said outer housing; and,

a latching mechanism interposed between said outer housing assembly and said holding rack.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): A golf club holding rack, comprising:

an outer housing assembly having an outer wall, a bottom surface and an open top end, wherein entire said outer housing assembly is mounted in the ground with said open top end exposed and flush with the ground;

a holding rack having an upper stand, a lower stand and a connector tube;

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a latching mechanism located in said upper stand of said holding rack; and
a compression spring located within said outer housing and contacting said holding
rack.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (original): The golf club holding rack of Claim 3, wherein said latching device is spring-biased and located in said upper stand of said holding rack.

Claim 6 (original): The golf club holding rack of Claim 5, wherein said lower stand has latch pins which reside in latch recess slots located in said outer wall of said outer housing.

Claim 7 (original): The golf club holding rack of Claim 6 further having a damper mechanism having an oil-filled cylinder with a dual piston design located within said outer housing and connected to said holding rack.

Claim 8 (original): The golf club holding rack of Claim 7, wherein said damper mechanism has an outer piston and an inner piston which are sized so that the inner piston is small enough to be drawn into the center of said outer piston.

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Claims 9-10 (canceled):

Claim 11 (original): The golf club holding rack of Claim 8, wherein said inner piston is connected to said damping rod.

Claim 12 (original): The golf club holding rack of Claim 5, wherein said latching mechanism having latch pins extending into said latch recess slots when said holding rack is in the retracted position, a center ball interposed between said latch pins; a release pin positioned in contact with said center ball and a spring-loaded cylinder positioned in contact with said center ball in opposition to said release pin.

Claims 13-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (new): A golf club holding rack, comprising:

an outer housing assembly having an outer wall, a bottom surface and an open top
end;

a holding rack having an upper stand, a lower stand and a connector tube, wherein
said upper stand of said holding rack has an upper surface having a spring-loaded push
button and a release pin connected to said latching mechanism;

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a latching mechanism located in said upper stand of said holding rack, wherein said latching device is spring-biased and located in said upper stand of said holding rack; and
a compression spring located within said outer housing and contacting said holding rack.

Claim 17 (new): A golf club holding rack, comprising:

an outer housing assembly, said outer housing assembly having an outer wall and a bottom surface;

a holding rack, having an upper stand, a lower stand and a connector tube connecting said upper stand to said lower stand;

a spring-biased mechanism affixed to said holding rack and said outer housing; and,

a latching mechanism interposed between said outer housing assembly and said holding rack, wherein said latching mechanism is located in said upper and said lower stand of said holding rack.